



DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ROBE

DOGS BY-LAW 2009

By-law No. 5 OF 2009

A by-law to limit the number of dogs kept on premises and for the management and control of dogs in the Council area.

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PART 1 – PRELIMINARY**1. Title**

This by-law may be cited as the *Dog By-law 2009* and is By-law No. 5 of the District Council of Robe.

2. Authorising law

This by-law is made under section 90(5) of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*, sections 238 and 246 of the Act, and subsection 667(1), 9.XVI of the *Local Government Act 1934*.

3. Purpose

The objects of this by-law are to control and manage dogs in the Council area:

- 3.1. to reduce the incidence of environmental nuisance caused by dogs;
- 3.2. to promote responsible dog ownership; and
- 3.3. to protect the convenience, comfort and safety of members of the public; and
- 3.4. for the good rule and government of the Council area.

4. Commencement, revocation and expiry

4.1. The following by-laws previously made by the Council are revoked from the day on which this by-law comes into operation¹:

4.1.1 By-law No.5 - Dogs.²

4.2. This by-law will expire on 1 January 2017.³

Note-

1. Generally a by-law comes into operation 4 months after the day on which it is gazetted: section 249(5) of the Act.
2. Section 253 of the Act provides that the revocation of a by-law by another by-law that contains substantially the same provisions, does not affect certain resolutions such as those applying a by-law to a part or parts of the Council area.
3. Pursuant to section 251 of the Act, a by-law will expire on 1 January following the seventh anniversary of the gazettal of the by-law.

5. Application

5.1. This by-law operates subject to the Council's *Permits and Penalties By-law 2009*.

5.2. Subject to subclause 5.3 this by-law applies throughout the Council area.

5.3. Clauses 8.1, 9.1.1 and 10.1.2 of this by-law only apply in such part or parts of the Council area as the Council may by resolution direct in accordance with section 246(3)(e) of the Act.

6. Interpretation

In this by-law, unless the contrary intention appears:

- 6.1. **Act** means the *Local Government Act 1999*;
- 6.2. **approved kennel establishment** means a building, structure or area approved by a relevant authority, pursuant to the *Development Act 1993* for the keeping of dogs on a temporary or permanent basis;
- 6.3. **children's playground** means an enclosed area in which there is equipment or other installed devices for the purpose of children's play (or within 3 metres of such devices if there is no enclosed area);
- 6.4. **council** means District Council of Robe;
- 6.5. **detached dwelling, row dwelling and semi-detached dwelling** have the same meanings as in the *Development Act 1993*;
- 6.6. **dog** has the same meaning as in the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*, except that the dog must be three months of age or older or, have lost its juvenile teeth;
- 6.7. **dog management officer and cat management officer** is a person appointed by Council as such, pursuant to the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*;
- 6.8. **effective control** means a person exercising effective control of a dog either:
 - 6.8.1 by means of a physical restraint; or
 - 6.8.2 by command, the dog being in close proximity to the person and the person being able to see the dog at all times;
- 6.9. **keep** includes the provision of food or shelter;
- 6.10. **premises** includes land whether used or occupied for domestic or non-domestic purposes except an approved kennel establishment;
- 6.11. **small dwelling** means a self-contained residence that is:
 - 6.11.1 a residential flat building;
 - 6.11.2 contained in a separate strata unit;
 - 6.11.3 on an allotment less than 400-600 square metres in area; or
 - 6.11.4 without a secure yard of at least 100 square metres in area;
- 6.12. **working dog** means a dog used principally for droving or tending livestock.

Note-

Section 14 of the *Interpretation Act 1915* provides that an expression used in this by-law has, unless the contrary intention appears, the same meaning as in the Acts under which the by-laws was made.

PART 2 – LIMITS ON DOG NUMBERS

7. Limits on dog numbers in private premises

- 7.1. Subject to clauses 7.2 and 7.4, a person must not, without the Council's permission keep:
- 7.1.1 in a township, more than one dog in a small dwelling;
 - 7.1.2 in a township, more than two dogs in premises other than a small dwelling;
 - 7.1.3 outside of a township, more than three dogs (other than working dogs);
- 7.2. Clause 7.1 does not apply to:
- 7.2.1 approved kennel establishments operating in accordance with all required approvals and consents; or
 - 7.2.2 premises from which a business involving dogs is operating provided that business is registered in accordance with the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*.
- 7.3. The Council may require that premises which are the subject of an application for permission to keep additional dogs, must be inspected by a dog management officer for the purpose of assessing the suitability of the premises for keeping the dogs.
- 7.4. No dog is to be kept on any premises where in the opinion of a dog management officer, there is no secure or appropriate area where a dog may be effectively confined.

PART 3 – DOG CONTROLS

8. Dog exercise areas

- 8.1. A person may enter a public place or part of Local Government land to which the Council has determined this subclause applies, for the purpose of exercising a dog under his or her effective control.
- 8.2. A person entering a dog exercise area designated by the Council must ensure that any dog under that person's control, charge or authority is under effective control at all times.

9. Dog on leash areas

- 9.1. A person must not, without the Council's permission, allow a dog under that persons control, charge or authority (except an accredited guide dog, hearing dog or disability dog) to be or remain:
 - 9.1.1 on Local Government land or public place to which the Council has determined that this subclause applies; and

- 9.1.2 on any park or reserve during times when organised sport is being played;

unless the dog is secured by a strong leash not exceeding 2 metres in length which is either tethered securely to a fixed object capable of securing the dog or held by a person capable of controlling the dog and preventing it from being a nuisance or a danger to other persons.

10. Dog prohibited areas

- 10.1. A person must not allow a dog under that person's control, charge or authority (except an accredited guide dog, hearing dog or disability dog) to enter or remain:

10.1.1 on any children's playground on Local Government land;

10.1.2 on any other Local Government land or public place to which the Council has determined that this subclause applies.

11. Dog faeces

No person is to allow a dog under that person's control, charge or authority to be in a public place or on local government land unless that person has in their possession a bag or other suitable container for the collection and lawful disposal of any faeces that the dog may deposit (for the purpose of complying with their obligation under section 45A(6) of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*).

PART 4 – ENFORCEMENT

12. Orders

- 12.1. If a person engages in conduct that is a contravention of this by-law, an authorised person or dog management officer may order that person:

12.1.1 if the conduct is still continuing – to stop the conduct; and

12.1.2 whether or no the conduct is still continuing – to take specified action to remedy the contravention.

- 12.2. A person must comply with an order under this clause.

- 12.3. If a person does not comply with an order, the authorised person or dog management officer may take action reasonably required to have the order carried out, and the Council may recover its costs of any action so taken from the person to whom the order was directed.

- 12.4. However, an authorised person or dog management officer may not use force against a person under this section.

Note-

For example, an authorised person may order a person to:

- cease keeping more than the permitted number of dogs on that person's premises; or
- remove a dog from a dog prohibited area.

This by-law was duly made and passed at a meeting of the Council of the District Council of Robe held on the **13 October 2009** by an absolute majority of the members for the time being constituting the Council, there being at least two thirds of the members present.

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Bill Hender
Chief Executive Officer

